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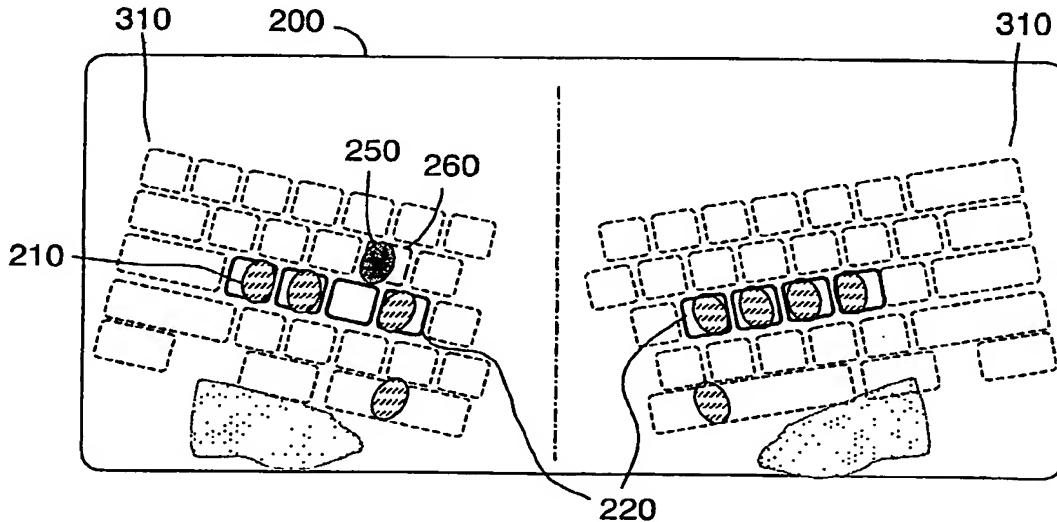
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**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

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*[Continued on next page]*

(54) Title: AUTOMATICALLY ADAPTABLE VIRTUAL KEYBOARD



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a data processing device (100) enabling a user to input characters, the device comprising a touch-sensitive member (200) arranged to function as a virtual keyboard, said member including at least one touch sensor (160) for detecting touched zones on said member. The device further comprises key allocation means (110) for allocating at least two reference keys (220) of the virtual keyboard in response to said detection of the touched zones. The device comprises at least one pressure sensor (170) for sensing a finger (250) causing a force on the touch-sensitive member higher than other fingers when more than one finger touches said member. A recognition of a key stroke may be realized. The reference keys may be reallocated upon a user's request or detection of a predetermined condition. The invention also relates to a method of enabling a user to input characters.



*PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)*

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 967 542 A (SHARP KK) 29 December 1999 (1999-12-29) column 1, line 22 - column 3, line 53 column 8, line 43 - column 9, line 25	1-4, 6-9, 13-19
X	US 2002/054120 A1 (AKAI TAKAYUKI ET AL) 9 May 2002 (2002-05-09) paragraph '0005! - paragraph '0044!	1, 2
A	WO 01/31788 A (GHASSABIAN FIROOZ) 3 May 2001 (2001-05-03) the whole document	1-19

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)			Publication date
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